

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /052 W
-----080935Z 069273 /15

O R 080909Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2518
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 1879

EO 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: KS, PINT
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PAK HOLDS INFORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE

1. ACCORDING TO BLUE HOUSE REPORTER KIM CHUNG-NAM, PRESIDENT PAK HELD TWO HOUR UNPUBLICIZED CONFERENCE WITH BLUE HOUSE PRESS CORPS ON MARCH 2. ALTHOUGH INVOKED TO COVER FAMILY MATTERS, MEETING MOVED TO OTHER ISSUES INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTER SAID PAK MAINTAINED THAT HE WAS FIRM IN HIS BELIEF THAT YUSHIN CONCEPT AND BASIC EMERGENCY MEASURES SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED AND THAT HE HAD NO INTENTION OF YIELDING TO "OUTSIDE" PRESSURES ON SUBJECT. PAK CLAIMED HE WAS DISTURBED THAT LOCAL DISSIDENT LEADERS WERE IN CONTACT WITH OUTSIDE (PRESUMABLY AMERICAN) PERSONS AND WERE DEPENDING ON THESE OUTSIDERS TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEM. REPORTER KIM SAID WHETHER TRUE OR NOT, PRESIDENT APPARENTLY BELIEVED IT TO BE TRUE.

2. PRESIDENT WAS NOT ALTOGETHER HARD LINE, HOWEVER, ACCORDING KIM HE DID INDICATE THERE COULD BE AN "EFFORT TO EASE DOMESTIC SITUATION." REPORTER KIM SUGGESTED TO EMBOFF THAT EFFORT COULD BE, FOR EXAMPLE, MINOR ADJUSTMENT TO ELECTION LAW. REPORTER ALSO OPINED THAT PRESIDENT MIGHT BE RECEPTIVE

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TO MEDIATION AND COMPROMISE WITH SUCH ANTI-GOVERNMENT FIGURES AS KIM TAE-CHUNG AND YUN PO-SUN, IF MEDIATION WAS PERFORMED BY DOMESTIC PERSON. JOURNALIST SAID HE HIMSELF WAS IMPRESSED WITH FACT PRESIDENT HAD IGNORED YUN'S PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO MARCH 1 AS WELL AS ONE ALLEGEDLY GIVEN SAME TIME BY MRS. KIM TAE-CHUNG ALTHOUGH BOTH HAD SERIOUSLY BREACHED EMERGENCY MEASURE NINE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE KIM IS A STRONG NATIONALIST AND
CONSIDERED BASICALLY SYMPATHETIC TO PRESIDENT'S OVERALL DOMESTIC
POLICIES, HIS COMMENTS TO US HAVE PROVEN RELATIVELY
OBJECTIVE AND TRUSTWORTHY TO DATE.
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL01879
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X4
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3176197
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT PAK HOLDS INFORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, KS, (PARK, CHONG-HUI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ea28febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009